

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**  
Office of Archives and History  
Department of Cultural Resources

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**Forest Hills Historic District, Additional Documentation**

Durham, Durham County, DH0830ad, Approved 10/8/2014  
Nomination by Jennifer Martin and Cynthia de Miranda  
Photographs by Jennifer Martin, June 2014



46 Beverly Drive



1025 Sycamore Street

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[Note: Only amended items and the required NPS certification are included below.]

Section 1: Name of Property: Forest Hills Historic District Additional Documentation

Section 3: State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources**

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

Section 4: National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_ entered in the National Register

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of action

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Section 5: Classification

Number of Resources within Property (do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

45

3

buildings

0

0

sites

0

0

structures

0

0

objects

45

3

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

319

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**Revised Inventory List Entries**

This additional documentation nomination extends the period of significance of the Forest Hills Historic District to include the period 1956 through 1965. This Section 7 provides revised inventory entries for buildings erected during the expanded period of significance and updates their status as contributing properties in the district. Included also are nine dwellings originally listed as noncontributing due to inaccurate or incomplete dating. The incorrect construction dates resulted from the limits of available research sources when the original nomination was prepared. County tax records, now available online, list original construction dates and are the source of the construction date for each property unless otherwise noted. Some current property owners in Forest Hills identified properties originally listed with inaccurate dates to the preparers of this form.

Please note that the website [www.trianglemodernisthouses.com](http://www.trianglemodernisthouses.com) used as a source in the original nomination has been renamed [www.ncmodernist.org](http://www.ncmodernist.org). All references to it here use the new name.

**Arnette Avenue**

Ralph M. Tucker House  
1407 Arnette Ave.  
1955  
Contributing Building

Hipped-roof brick Ranch with center chimney, a recessed door, a stoop with a metal railing, a front picture window, metal jalousie windows, and some metal sash windows. At left is original attached garage. Ralph M. Tucker was owner-occupant in 1960. [tax records, 1960 CD]

**Beverly Drive**

Laura P. and Alexander Hawkins Graham Jr. House  
1 Beverly Drive  
1965  
Contributing Building

One-story, side-gabled, brick Ranch house stands on a raised basement on its south end and is composed of a three-bay center block that projects forward and slightly above one-bay brick wings. Eight-over-twelve, double-hung windows pierce the exterior and a large brick chimney rises from the interior of the center block. The entrance, composed of a single-leaf wooden door

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flanked by half-glazed, divided-light sidelights, is recessed in the north end of the center block. [information from owner].

James E. Davis House  
7 Beverly Drive  
1959  
Contributing Building

Two-story, side-gabled, brick Colonial Revival-style house with exterior end chimneys, six-over-six sash windows, and a two-story side wing at the left. A one-story garage is attached to the wing. Academic details include a modillion cornice, a door with sidelights, and a one-bay entrance porch with columns and a parapet roof. Robert W. Carr designed the house in 1959. James E. Davis was owner-occupant in 1960. Davis served as chairman of the department of surgery at Watts Hospital from 1954 until 1979. He was a president of the American Medical Association from 1987 to 1988. [tax records, Carr interview, 1960 CD, biographical information from the *New York Times*, November 11, 1997]

Ralph G. Fleming House  
23 Beverly Drive  
1955  
Contributing Building

Two-story, side-gabled, brick Colonial Revival-style house with sash windows with aprons on the first story and a full-width balcony with boxed posts. The upper story of the balcony currently lacks a railing. French doors open onto the balcony. At left is a one-and-a-half story wing with a dormer; at right is a one story wing with an exterior end chimney. The brick has been painted. Dr. Ralph G. Fleming was the occupant in 1960. [tax records, 1960 CD]

Claude Biddle House  
27 Beverly Drive  
1958  
Contributing Building

Two-story, side-gable Colonial Revival-style house with brick on the first floor, an overhanging upper story with weatherboard siding and six-over-six sash windows. The door has sidelights and a one-bay gabled porch with fluted posts. A large fixed multi-pane replacement window is beside the door. The multi-plane roof features a front shed section and a lower rear shed section. At left is a one-story wing. Claude Biddle lived here in 1960. [tax records, 1960 CD]

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Dr. William V. Singletary House  
32 Beverly Drive  
1957  
Contributing Building

One and two-story, side-gabled, brick Modernist house with asbestos siding on the overhanging upper story, a recessed door, an exterior end chimney, and metal casement windows. Across the façade are three metal picture windows with flanking casements. Birmingham construction built the house for Dr. Singletary in 1957. [information from owner; 1958 CD]

Carport  
Ca. 2000  
Noncontributing Structure

Detached side-gabled carport with brick posts.

Stewart P. Alexander Jr. House  
40 Beverly Drive  
1958  
Contributing Building

One-story, brick Modernist house with a two-story center block, a flat roof, a recessed entrance, and a one-story left side wing. Alterations include replacement casement windows and a latticework brick wall that screens the original carport at the left side. The house was built for Stewart P. Alexander Jr., son of the founder of Alexander Ford Company. [tax records, information from owner, 1960 CD]

Charlie Pete House  
42 Beverly Drive  
1962  
Contributing Building

Two-story, side-gabled Colonial Revival-style house with a brick first story, an upper story covered with vinyl siding, a door with sidelights and a shed porch with boxed posts. Other features are eight-over-twelve and eight-over-eight sash windows and a one-story garage with cupola at the left. Charlie Pete, an obstetrician at Duke Hospital, was the original owner. [neighbor interview, tax records]

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Lois and George R. Herbert Jr. House  
46 Beverly Drive  
1961  
Contributing Building

Modernist split-level house with two-level diagonal main block at the right and a one-story wing at the left. The recessed entrance's double door has been replaced with a single door with sidelights. Features include vertical wood sheathing, wide eaves, and interior white brick chimney, and casement windows. The original owner was George R. Herbert Jr., who became the first president of the Research Triangle Institute in 1959. The Archie Royal Davis architectural firm designed the house. [information from owner]

Archie Royal Davis House  
52 Beverly Drive  
1962  
Contributing Building

Modernist brick split-level house with wood shakes on the gable ends, an interior chimney, a recessed double door with narrow sidelights, and a front deck. The windows include casements in tall vertical units and fixed glazed panels in the gable end. Architect Davis adapted a plan purchased from Sunset Magazine, according to Davis's godson Casey Herbert, who grew up at 46 Beverly Drive in a Davis-designed house. T. W. Wilkerson was the builder. [Carr interview, [www.ncmodernist.org](http://www.ncmodernist.org)]

Charles Roach House  
55 Beverly Drive  
1957  
Contributing Building

Wide, side-gabled, brick Ranch house with a shallow gabled front wing with a large fixed multi-pane window, a corner recessed porch with paired boxed posts, and six-over-six sash windows. At right is a garage wing. Robert W. Carr designed the house for Roach. [tax records, Carr interview; 1960 CD]

Dot and Hubert Lewis House  
63 Beverly Drive  
1958  
Contributing Building

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Large, one-and-a-half-story brick Colonial Revival-style house with a side-gabled slate roof with three gabled dormers and flanking one-story wings. Other features are a recessed double door with a transom and fluted pilasters, a dentil cornice, eight-over-twelve sash windows with aprons and an exterior and an interior chimney. The house was built for the Lewises. [tax records]

Ann and L. Bryan Clemmons Jr. House  
68 Beverly Drive  
1958  
Contributing Building

Side-gabled, split-level house with asbestos siding, a gabled wing projecting from the right façade, a carport at the left, and a shallow side porch across the façade. The sash windows are replacements. Ann and L. Bryan Clemmons Jr. are the earliest known owners and appear at this address in the 1961 city directory. He was the manager for Caterers, Inc. [information from owner, 1961 CD]

House  
72 Beverly Drive  
1963  
Contributing Building

Side-gable brick Ranch house with Colonial Revival-style sash windows with aprons, a door with sidelights, and a small pedimented entrance porch with boxed posts and a metal railing. [tax records]

Kearns House  
75 Beverly Drive  
1961  
Contributing Building

Two-story, side-gabled, brick Colonial Revival-style house with exterior end chimneys, a door with a transom, a brick stoop and metal railing, and large fixed multi-pane windows flanking the door. Other features are six-over-six sash windows, vinyl siding on the upper level of the main block, and flanking one-story wings. A pent roof shelters the lower main block. The brick has been painted. The house was built for the Kearns. [Carr interview]

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Kathleen and Oral G. Allen House  
77 Beverly Drive  
1950  
Contributing Building

Wide, hip-roofed, brick Ranch house with Roman brick walls, wide eaves, a door with sidelights, a hipped entrance porch with boxed posts, and an interior chimney. Windows include both sash and sliders or casements. Oral G. Allen was the occupant in 1958. In 1960, Mr. Allen was assistant manager of the Belk-Leggett store. [tax records, 1958 CD, 1960 CD]

E. K. Powe Jr. House  
81 Beverly Drive  
1960  
Contributing Building

Striking contemporary-style house on a large wooded property. The house has a front-gabled main block with walls glazed up to the roofline and a large interior brick chimney that is exposed on the interior. At the left front is a lower flat-roof wing with no windows; at right another lower wing. The entry into the main block has glazed walls. Other features are vertical wood sheathing, exposed ceiling joists, and wide eaves. Chapel Hill architect James Webb designed the house for Edward Knox Powe Jr., who was an attorney. [Carr interview; [www.ncmodernist.org](http://www.ncmodernist.org)]

**Bivins Street**

Hazeline and Wallace S. Pickard House  
1210 Bivins Street  
1954  
Contributing Building

Small, side-gabled brick Ranch house with interior chimney, three-part, front picture window with replacement flanking windows, and brick stoop with decorative metal posts and aluminum awning. The sliding windows are replacements. Wallace Pickard, a tobacconist, was the occupant in 1957. [tax records, 1957 CD]

Shed  
1954  
Contributing Building

Shed-roofed shed with German siding.

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House

1211 Bivins Street

2014

Noncontributing Building

One-story Modernist house built into a hillside. Exterior is vertical metal standing seam siding and copper-colored fish scale flat metal panels sheathe the exterior wall around the main entrance and basement entrance. Oldcastle custom concrete block sheathes the basement level to the west. Shed roofs crown the house, including the two-car garage at the east end. Designed by local architect Ellen Cassilly Inc. with Keith Barnhouse as project manager.

Harry Penn House

1214 Bivins Street

1958

Contributing Building

Side-gabled brick Ranch house with modernist features such as an entrance porch with a vertical wood screen, vertical siding on the left bays, and Roman brick veneer on the right. The recessed carport has square decorative openings in the brick. Interior chimney and sliding metal windows. Harry Penn was the occupant in 1960. [tax records, 1960 CD]

House

1227 Bivins Street

1956

Contributing Building

Brick Ranch house on a sloping lot, with a recessed door with sidelights, an interior end chimney, metal casement windows, and board-and-batten siding on the upper walls of the entrance wing. The lower level includes a garage. W. H. McCarthy was the occupant in 1960. [tax records, 1960 CD]

Playhouse

Ca. 1990

Noncontributing Building

Front-gabled, weatherboard playhouse.

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Lottie and J. Ben Barnes House  
115 Briar Cliff Road  
1958  
Contributing Building

Hip-roof brick Ranch house on a raised basement with a brick stoop with metal railing, 6-over-9 sash windows, an interior chimney, and a carport that has been screened in at left with pipe supports. The brick has been painted. Lottie and J. Ben Barnes were the occupants in 1960. He owned the J. Ben Barnes Sign Shop. [1960 CD]

**Carolina Circle**

Mary and Robert Westbrook House  
417 Carolina Circle  
1962  
Contributing Building

Ranch house, set on a slope with a basement, side-gable roof, interior chimney, eight-over-twelve and six-over-six sash windows, a garage in the basement, and artificial siding. Mr. Westbrook was an engineer for George W. Kane Company. Listed as "under construction" in the 1961 city directory. The Westbrooks appear at this address in the 1962 city directory. [1962 CD]

House  
419 Carolina Circle  
ca. 1960  
Contributing Building

One-story Ranch house, set on a slope with a basement, side-gable roof, brick walls, interior chimney, a recessed door, eight-over-eight sash windows, and a garage in the basement. [tax records]

House  
429 Carolina Circle  
2010  
Noncontributing Building

Large, two-story, neo-Tudor-influenced brick and stone-veneered house with a high-hipped roof and two front-facing gables. A one-story, hip-roofed garage with a front-gabled dormer is attached to the north elevation.

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**Cedar Street**

Alicelee and William L. Perry House  
1804 Cedar Street  
1961  
Contributing Building

Large, one-and-a-half-story brick side-gable Colonial Revival-style house with eight-over-twelve sash windows, a gabled front wing, a door beneath a corner entrance porch with copper hood, a large bay window, an interior chimney, and a one-story left side wing. The house first appears in the 1963 city directory with the Perry family as owner-occupants. [tax records, 1963 CD]

**West Forest Hills Boulevard**

House  
1060 West Forest Hills Boulevard  
1947  
Contributing Building

Two-story side-gabled Colonial Revival-style house with weatherboard siding, end chimneys, an entrance with transom and sidelights, and flanking French doors. Across the upper façade is a balcony with turned posts and a plain railing. Other features are eight-over-eight sash windows, a one-story rear shed wing, and a one-story brick wing on the west side. [tax records]

Mary and Robert L. Stone House  
1100 West Forest Hills Boulevard  
1963  
Contributing Building

One-and-a-half-story side-gabled brick Colonial Revival-style house with three gabled dormers, a center recessed porch with arched bays and flush wood sheathing, and a door with sidelights. Windows are eight-over-eight, six-over-six and four-over-four sash. Set on a raised basement, with a rear carport attached by a breezeway. [tax records, 1967 CD]

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**Forestwood Drive**

Margaret and Clifton Cherback House  
235 Forestwood Drive  
1963  
Contributing Building

Brick and frame split-level house with a brick entrance stoop with metal railing, eight-over-twelve and eight-over-eight sash windows, and an interior chimney. Alterations included painted brick, aluminum siding, and some replacement windows. [tax records, 1966 CD]

**Hermitage Court**

Sarah and Albert D. Weeks House  
1507 Hermitage Court  
1962  
Contributing Building

Side-gabled brick Ranch house with large interior chimney, a door with a stoop and a metal railing, replacement 8-over-1 sash windows, and flanking recessed wings. The left wing is set at an angle to the main block. The right wing is a garage with a latticework brick wall. The brick is painted. Albert Weeks was president of Weeks Motors Inc. His wife, Sarah, was vice-president of the business. Tax records lists a construction date of 1901, but its style and form do not support that information. The house is first listed in the 1963 city directory. [tax records, 1963 CD]

Dr. Everitt I. Bugg Jr. House  
1544 Hermitage Court  
ca. 1950  
DEMOLISHED

The brick Ranch house has been demolished.

**Kent Street**

Betty and Virgil Ashbaugh Jr. House  
1523 Kent Street  
1961  
Contributing Building

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Modernist, side-gable Ranch house with a side-gable roof, vertical wood siding, sliding metal windows, and a recessed porch with glazed walls. Brick covers the walls up to the window sills, and extends to the south of the façade to anchor a small original storage shed. A solid high wooden fence encloses the side yard. Virgil Ashbaugh Jr., who grew up in the house to the rear at 1022 Westwood Dr., built the house and lived here for some forty years. In the early 1960s, he was president and manager of Durham Dairy Products Inc. [tax records, information from owner, 1963 CD]

Betty and H. Gordon Tuggle House  
1601 Kent Street  
1956  
Contributing Building

Small L-plan Contemporary-style house with wide eaves, asbestos siding, a large side chimney, and a wall of high windows facing the street. The east wing has been extended in two phases, including a shallow porch. The house was constructed of prefabricated sections. The 1956 city directory lists it as "under construction" in 1956, although tax records give 1955 as the construction date. H. The Tuggles were the owner-occupants in 1958. He was a tobacconist for W. L. Robinson Company. [tax records, information from owner, 1956 and 1958 CDs] □

Garage  
1956, ca. 2000  
Noncontributing Building

Originally a carport, this has been remodeled as a garage with sheet-metal siding and corrugated plexiglass windows.

Margurite and Fred H. Stubblefield House  
1711 Kent Street  
1960  
Contributing Building

Side-gable brick Ranch house with a recessed door with sidelights, a brick stoop and metal railing, a front projecting bay window, and a left wing with plywood siding (perhaps originally a garage was located in this wing). The one-over-one sash windows are probably replacements. The 1963 city directory lists Margurite and Fred H. Stubblefield as the owners/occupants. He was the manager for Dillon Supply Company. [tax records, 1963 CD]

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Dorothy and Laurence Aydlett House  
1715 Kent Street  
1962  
Contributing Building

Brick split-level house with vinyl siding on the upper level, a center chimney, a door with sidelights, and 2-over-2 horizontal sash. Some six-over-six sash windows. The bay windows in the upper level may be additions. The 1963 city directory lists the Aydletts as the owners/occupants. He was a reporter for the *Durham Herald*. [tax records, 1963 CD]

**Shepherd Street**

Mary and Blackwell Brogden House  
1406 Shepherd Street  
1961  
Contributing Building

Two-story side-gable brick Colonial Revival-style house with an exterior end chimney and an interior chimney, an entrance with sidelights and a classical surround, and a circular porch with slender columns. Windows have eight-over-eight sash. The brick is painted. The Brogdens bought the parcel in August 1960 and the house first appears in the 1963 city directory with the Brogdens as occupants. [tax records, information from owner]

Mary and Blackwell Markham Brogden Sr. House  
1408 Shepherd Street  
1960  
Contributing Building

Modernist brick side-gabled split-level house with an overhanging upper level with vertical wood sheathing. The recessed entrance is glazed to the roof line, and a band of sliding wood windows occupies the left two-thirds of the façade. In the lower level is a garage. 1410 Shepherd Street, the adjacent house, is of similar design and age. It was listed as vacant in the 1961 city directory. The Brogdens are listed as owners/occupants in the 1962 city directory. Blackwell Brogden Sr. (1921-1980) was a prominent Durham lawyer. [tax records, 1961, 1962 CD, [www.andjusticeforall.dconnc.gov](http://www.andjusticeforall.dconnc.gov)]

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Dorothy and John Borden House  
1410 Shepherd Street  
1959  
Contributing Building

Modernist brick side-gabled split-level house with a recessed entrance that is glazed to the roofline, a band of sliding wood windows in the right two-thirds of the façade, and an open two-car garage in the lower level. 1408 Shepherd Street, the adjacent house, is of similar but not identical design. The Bordens are listed as owners and occupants in the 1962 city directory. Mr. Borden was a salesman for his family's business, Borden Brick and Tile Company. [Durham County Deeds 1261/623]

Charlotte and Alvis Carl (A. C.) Sorrell House  
1414 Shepherd Street  
1949, 1960  
Contributing Building

Two-story side-gable Colonial Revival-style house with the upper story having a shallow jetty. Other features are six-over-six sash windows, exterior end chimneys, and a 2-story right side wing added in 1960. Aluminum siding sheathes the exterior. Alvis C. Sorrell, an accountant at Erwin Mills, and his wife Charlotte Tilley Sorrell were listed as owners-occupants in the 1956 city directory. [1956 CD; information from owner; tax records]

**Starlight Drive**

House  
1003 Starlight Drive  
1963  
Contributing Building

Side-gabled brick Ranch house on a raised basement with a recessed porch with wooden posts and railing, a front picture window, and two-over-two horizontal sash windows. [tax records, Durham County Deed book 6022, page 631]

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**Summit Street**

House  
2109 Summit Street  
2013  
Noncontributing Building

One-and-half-story, front-gabled, neo-Craftsman house with a lower, front-facing gable on the north side of the façade. A shed roof porch with a single bungalow-style pier on a brick plinth is on the south side of the façade. A gabled dormer occupies the south roof slope. Windows are six-over-six, double-hung sash of an unknown material. Foundation is brick veneer and exterior is sheathed with fiber cement horizontal siding with fiber cement shingles in the front gables.

**Sycamore Street**

Doris and James O'Neal House  
1015 Sycamore Street  
1956  
Contributing Building

Hip-roof brick Ranch house set on a raised basement with a recessed door with sidelights and metal posts and railing, two-over-two horizontal sash windows, and an interior chimney. The O'Neals were listed as the owners/occupants in the 1957 city directory. He worked as a teller at Durham Bank and Trust. [tax records, 1957 CD]

Mary D. and Webb C. Howell Jr. House  
1024 Sycamore Street  
1957  
Contributing Building

Side-gable brick Ranch house with a front-gable wing with a corner door with pilasters, sheltered by an entrance porch with decorative iron posts and railing. Flanking the door are a bay window and a polygonal window. Windows are metal awning type. The house is listed as "under construction" in the 1957 city directory. The couple first appears at this address in the 1958 city directory. Webb Howell was a dentist. [1958 CD]

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Margaret and John M. Cheek Jr. House  
1025 Sycamore Street  
1957  
Contributing Building

One-and-a-half-story gable-and-wing Colonial Revival- style house with a front shed porch with boxed posts, replacement windows, and a front shed dormer. The house has a raised basement, painted brick walls, a door with sidelights and a pilastered surround, and a front fixed multi-pane window. In the 1957 city directory it was listed as “under construction.” The Cheeks appear as owners/occupants in the 1958 city directory. John M. Cheek Jr. was a physician. [tax records, 1957 and 1958 CDs]

**Ward Street**

House  
1202 Ward Street  
1960  
Contributing Building

Brick split-level house with side-gable roof, interior chimney, eight-over-eight and six-over-six sash windows, and a shed porch with boxed posts and metal railing. The brick has been painted. [tax records, Durham County Deeds 5307/382]

Marion and Wense Grabarek House  
1212 Ward Street  
1951  
Contributing Building

Six-bay-wide brick side-gabled split-level house with an interior chimney, eight-over-eight and six-over-six sash windows, and a fixed multi-pane window. Other features are a recessed door, a brick stoop with metal railing, and a projecting bay window with concave metal roof. At the left is an open garage, at right is a raised basement. Wense Grabarek served as mayor of Durham from 1963 to 1971, a crucial period in Durham’s civil rights history. He and his wife remain as owners and occupants of the property. [tax records, Durham County Deed book 193, page 406]

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**Westwood Drive**

Donleen and Ralph N. Strayhorn House  
1021 Westwood Drive  
1961  
Contributing Building

Two-story side-gable brick Colonial Revival-style house with exterior end chimneys and a 1-story left side wing. The center bay projects as a pavilion, crowned by a pediment with lunette. Authentic colonial details include twelve-over-twelve and eight-over-eight sash windows with jack arches, an entrance with transom, sidelights, and a crosssetted surround, and a Doric entrance porch with a paneled roof railing. The 1961 city directory lists the Strayhorns as owners/occupants. Mr. Strayhorn was a lawyer and member of the North Carolina House of Representatives in the late 1950s. [tax records, 1961 CD]

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**Period of Significance**

1956-1965

**Architect/Builder**

Architect: Carr, Robert W.  
Webb, James  
Builder: Wilkerson, T.W.

**Summary of Significance**

The Forest Hills Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2005 under Criteria A and C with a period of significance of 1925 through ca. 1955. The end date for the period of significance reflected the fact that development after 1955 occurred less than fifty years before listing and was not exceptionally significant. This additional documentation extends the period of significance to 1965, during which time development continued in the pattern established during the original National Register-listed period of significance wherein large architect-designed houses and smaller dwellings were built on parcels located along primarily curvilinear streets. The district is locally significant and meets Criterion C in the area of Architecture for the period 1956 through 1965 for its significant collection of domestic styles including the Colonial Revival, Ranch, and Modernist idioms such as contemporary and split-level houses. Although some construction continued after 1965, that development is not of exceptional significance.

**Historical Background: 1956-1965**

By 1956, a good deal of Forest Hills was built out and development continued on streets near the edges of the historic district's boundary. Beverly Drive and Kent Street saw most of the construction in the 1956 to 1965 period. Sixteen of twenty-five houses on Beverly Drive went up in these years, and four of eight houses were built on the part of Kent Street within the district. Other houses completed the build-out of blocks begun in the 1940s and early 1950s, such as on Shepherd Street and Starlight Drive. A few houses were infill in older areas, like the Ranch house at 1407 Arnette Avenue. Residents of these new houses, as in previous decades, were professionals and local business owners or managers and their families.

Other established Durham neighborhoods experienced similar infill development at this time. In-town neighborhoods with undeveloped tracts, like Watts-Hillandale and Duke Park, saw sections of new construction. Meanwhile, individual mid-century houses went up on single empty parcels in many established white residential neighborhoods, including Trinity Park, Duke Park, Watts-Hillandale, Morehead Hill, and Burch Avenue. Hope Valley, not constrained by surrounding

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development, expanded with newly platted sections that consumed more farmland. Newer neighborhoods for upper middle-class white professionals, like Duke Forest, established south of Duke University in 1929 but largely developed in the 1940s through the 1960s, and Argonne Hills, established in the 1950s in northern Durham, continued to grow as well.<sup>1</sup>

In the ten years since listing the district in the National Register of Historic Places, little has changed in the Forest Hills Historic District. A couple of new houses have been built in recent years on previously vacant parcels: 429 Carolina Circle was built in 2010 and a house at 1211 Bivins was recently completed. The neighborhood has not experienced dramatic remodeling or replacement of historic dwellings with new ones, although the contributing house at 1544 Hermitage Court was demolished in 2012. The district's overall integrity remains high and is enhanced by the extension of the period of significance.

#### **Architectural Context: 1956-1965**

In the period 1956 through 1965, as in the earlier decades of development, architect-designed houses combined with dwellings built from builders' plan books and popular magazines to create the streetscape. Houses in Forest Hills from this period reflect either the Colonial Revival or the Modernist style, with the former being a bit more popular.<sup>2</sup>

The Colonial Revival style in this period adopted some elements of mid-century residential building, including concessions for the car as well as some simplicity of ornament ushered in by the Modernist movement. Robert W. Carr designed a Colonial Revival house for physician James E. Davis, chair of the Department of Surgery at Watts Hospital, at 7 Beverly Drive in 1959. Academic detailing includes the modillion cornice and sidelights at the center entry, but the attached one-car garage is a sign of the car-centric times: Earlier garages were separate from and subsidiary to the house. The 1958 Colonial Revival-style house at 63 Beverly Drive is a one-and-a-half-story dwelling with flanking side wings and a slate roof with three gabled dormers, but it has the broad, low-slung facade associated with the Ranch style. At 1804 Cedar Street, a 1961 Colonial Revival-style house has eight-over-twelve sash, a gabled front wing, and a corner porch with copper hood, but the styling is more stripped-down, as was the fashion into the 1960s.<sup>3</sup>

Modernism, never overwhelmingly popular in Durham, thrived in Forest Hills in this period. E.K. Powe Jr. hired James Webb of Chapel Hill to design a Modernist house at 81 Beverly

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<sup>1</sup> Claudia Roberts Brown, Diane E. Lea, and Robert M. Leary, *The Durham Architectural and Historic Inventory* (Durham: City of Durham, 1982), 299-301; "Lochmoor," [www.opendurham.org](http://www.opendurham.org), viewed January 20, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Roberts et al., 284.

<sup>3</sup> Carr interview.

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Drive. Two roof forms—a lower flat roof combined with a taller shallow gable over clerestory windows—typifies Webb’s juxtaposition of flat and pitched roofs. Archie Royal Davis designed the George and Lois Herbert House at 46 Beverly Drive, a Modernist split-level house with one- and two-story blocks set at a diagonal to each other. For his own family, Davis modified a Modernist split-level plan purchased from *Sunset Magazine* at 52 Beverly Drive in 1962.<sup>4</sup>

Other houses throughout the neighborhood were more modest in scope if not always in size. Popular mid-century types like the Ranch and the split-level abound in this period. They might have detailing derivative of either the Colonial Revival or the Modernist style, or they might mix elements of both. Examples include the O’Neal House at 1015 Sycamore Drive, a Ranch with echoes of the Colonial Revival style—faux shutters and entrance sidelights—along with sheltering eaves and likely the more open living plan common with Ranch houses. The two-story traditional 1960 house at 1202 Ward Street has a side-gabled roof, faux shutters, multi-light double-hung wood sash, and a six-panel front door derived from the Colonial Revival style, but the overall presentation remains modest and includes an integrated garage at one end of the facade at the first floor. A Ranch at 115 Briar Cliff Road, ignores the Colonial Revival style in favor of some Modernist details: sheltering eaves and an integrated carport.

Architecturally, Hope Valley saw the same trends as Forest Hills in this period, with architect-designed and larger plan book houses filling empty parcels or tracts. Modernist houses are in greater evidence in Forest Hills than in Hope Valley, but the premier Modernist neighborhood from this period was Duke Forest, a newer neighborhood platted in 1929 but that saw substantial development in later decades. Duke Forest, unlike Durham’s other neighborhoods, had no speculative houses. The entire neighborhood is custom built, originally only for professors at Duke University. By the 1950s and 1960s, those academics often chose to erect a Modernist house in conjunction with an architect, but the neighborhood also includes Ranches and split-levels.

In Durham’s other established white neighborhoods, houses from this period were generally more modest than those seen in Forest Hills, but they also tended to be popular mid-century forms, namely houses with a rectangular footprint, dressed in Colonial Revival-style or Modernist details. Split-levels and Ranches line the streets in the northwest corner of Watts Hillandale, sporting faux shutters and double-hung divided sash derived from the Colonial Revival style or Modernist-inspired details like single-pane casement or awning windows and deep roof overhangs. An exception is the Jon Condoret-designed Modernist house at 2512 W. Club Boulevard. Duke Park’s Peace and Shawnee streets, built out in the 1950s, feature very modest Modernist Ranches and slightly larger split-levels. These new dwellings in the central

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<sup>4</sup> Carr interview; “Archie Royal Davis,” at [ncmodernist.org](http://ncmodernist.org), viewed Jan 15, 2014.

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neighborhoods were undoubtedly built from purchased plans or builder's stock plans, in contrast with the many architect-designed houses of the period in the farther-flung neighborhoods.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Cynthia de Miranda, "Hope Valley Historic District National Register Nomination," <http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/nr/DH2730.pdf>, viewed January 17, 2014; Roberts et al., 299-301; "Jon Condoret," [www.ncmodernist.org](http://www.ncmodernist.org), viewed January 20, 2014.

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